THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 74 Engineers in different executive grades and 77 Assistant Engineers/Junior Engineers/Section Officers are on deputation from J & K State at Salal Project.

(c) Deputationists at Salal Project will be repatriated gradually to their respective parent Departments keeping in view the actual requirements from time to time.

Power Project in Rajasthan

54. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for setting up Power project in Joint Sector and/or in private sector in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details of such proposals and what is the latest policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up of a Thermal Power Plant at Dholpur, in the joint sector, was received by the Central Electricity Authority from the Rajasthan State Electricity Board. The feasibility report for this project, which envisages installation of two units of 210 MW in Stage-I, is under techno-economically eamined in the Central Electricity Authority.

The policy regarding power generation is regulated by the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956, which contemplates that the development of generation and distribution of electricity is the exclusive responsibility of the State. The Resolution does not, however, preclude the expansion of the existing privately-owned units or the possibility of the State securing the cooperation of private enterprise in the establishment of new units, when the national interests so require.

Availability of oil and gas in West Rajasthan

55. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest findings in West Rajasthan about the availability of oil and gas there; and

(b) what is the estimated expenditure on the work of exploration during the year 1986-87 in West Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The last hydrocarbon discovery in West Rajasthan was in Ghotaru in 1983, when gas was discovered in one well.

(b) About Rs. 19 crores.

Additional posts created in High Courts

56. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH .

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts lying vacant on the benches of various High Courts in the country at present:

(b) the number of additional posts created in various High Courts for the year 1986-87; and

(c) by when these posts are likely to be filled up?